GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4418
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
BLACK LISTING OF ALLIANCE AIR
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned `UK blacklists Alliance` appearing inHindustan Times dated July 21,2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several foreign countries have directed their diplomats and visiting tourists not to use Alliance-Air flights; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ward off such actions from other foreign countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b),(c) and (d): The thrust of the news item was on the reported directive issued by the British Foreign Office to its diplomats in India not to use Alliance Air because of withdrawal of service contract by Rolls Royce for its engine purportedly on safety grounds.

This was, however, factually incorrect. The Alliance Air B-737 aircraft is not fitted with any Rolls Royce engine, as alleged in the Article. They are in fact, fitted with Pratt & Whitney engines, which are serviced at the Indian Airlines Jet Engine Overhaul facility inNew Delhi. The foreign office of British Diplomats have also confirmed that they have not issued any instructions against use of Alliance Air to their mission in Delhi.